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# RAYLEIGH WAVE DISCRIMINATION TECHNIQUES BETWEEN UNDERGROUND EXPLOSIONS AND EARTHQUAKES

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# RAYLEIGH WAVE DISCRIMINATION TECHNIQUES BETWEEN UNDERGROUND EXPLOSIONS AND EARTHQUAKES

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# ABSTRACT

Discrimination between underground nuclear explosions and shallow earthquakes using the vertical component of the Rayleigh wave is achieved using several techniques. This analysis includes the previous developed area under the Rayleigh wave (ARZ), the newly applied total energy (ERZ), and the total energy transported across a unit width of the waveguide by the Rayleigh wave (REF). Results for several explosions and earthquakes of varying magnitudes are presented. Evaluation of these techniques and their applicability in an automated discrimination program is discussed. An attempt is made to incorporate a matched filter approach for weak signals.

## INTRODUCTION

The objective of this study is to examine possible discrimination techniques using the vertical component of the Rayleigh wave. The use of surface waves in a discrimination process was originally discussed by Brune, Espinosa, and Oliver (1963) with their introduction of the AR diagnostic (the area included in the envelope of the surface waves of a seismogram). Subsequent investigation has shown that better results are obtained using only the vertical component of the Rayleigh wave in the AR process. With this tool as the basic discriminant, and with the idea of obtaining optimum results for the time invested, modifications have been made to the AR process, and new discrimimants have been tried. A program has been written which yields results for each discriminant, enabling comparisons to be made readily. In the following paragraphs, a theoretical description is included for each tool, the results for each discriminant on actual data is given, and the program which performs these calculations is described.

# Methods of Analysis

ARZ: This was originally defined as the area within the envelope of the vertical component of the Rayleigh wave recorded on a standard instrument at standard magnification. This quantity has no physical meaning. Its motivation was founded on the fact that it was easy to measure manually by tracing out the envelope and then using a planimeter to obtain the area.

In our effort to automate this process and bring the speed of a computer into play, computing the envelope was found to be cumbersome. Instead, using the area obtained by integrating the absolute value of the trace amplitude was found to be more efficient.

Mathematically, the definition of the area under the vertical component of the Rayleigh wave that is now being used is

$$ARZ = \int_{T_1}^{T_2} |f(t)| dt$$

where f(t) is the seismogram trace and  $T_2^{-T_1}$  the group velocity window we are examining.

ERZ: By definition, ERZ is proportional to the total energy in the Rayleigh wave:

$$ERZ = \int_{T_1}^{T_2} f^2(t) dt.$$

The motivation for this discriminant can be found in the need to develop some easily calculable quantity which has a physical interpretation, and has better discrimination ability than ARZ.

REF: This quantity is defined as the Rayleigh energy flux, the energy transported across a unit width of the wave guide by the Rayleigh wave. In a perfectly elastic medium the energy flux out of any closed surface containing the source is equal to the energy injected by the source into the medium. Therefore, REF, when corrected for geometrical spreading, shows effects of only the crustal filtering, i.e., scattering and absorption losses, and the source radiation pattern.

REF = 
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} U(\omega) \omega^{2} \int_{0}^{\infty} \rho(z) \left[ \overline{Q}^{2}(z,\omega) + \overline{W}^{2}(z,\omega) \right] W^{2}(0,\omega) dz d\omega$$

where

U: group velocity

Q: normalized radial displacement

W: normalized vertical displacement

 $W(0,\omega)$ : observed surface vertical displacement

ρ: density

REF -  $W(\omega)$ : This quantity is the structure correction for the REF, which takes into account the effect of structure for a particular recording station. If the structure under the recording station is known, then the normalized spectral energy density,  $E_n$ , may be calculated using Harkrider's dispersion program.

$$E_{n} = \omega^{2} \int_{0}^{\infty} \rho(z) \left[ \overline{Q}^{2}(z,\omega) + \overline{W}^{2}(z,\omega) \right] dz$$

The structure correction factor can be defined as

$$K(\omega) = U(\omega)E_n(\omega)$$

Therefore, we can write the Rayleigh energy flux as

REF = 
$$\int_{\omega_{1}}^{\omega_{2}} K(\omega) W_{0}^{2}(\omega) d\omega,$$

where the surface wave packet is band-limited  $(\omega_1 < \omega < \omega_2)$  as a consequence of the source excitation and the crustal and instrumental filtering.

# Program Description

A flow diagram of the AR program is shown in Figure 1. It shows what steps are required to calculate ARZ, ERZ, and REF; in particular, what spectra are calculated and where the instrument response and noise corrections are applied. The following paragraphs give a modular description of the program.

Tape Input: The entire trace of the first seismogram is read. The program will handle up to 16000 points.

<u>Card Input:</u> Besides providing the event identification information, options and controls for the tape input are also given (i.e., the record start time can be corrected).

Preprocessed Time Series: In this module, the trace is prepared for computation by correcting for static magnification,

decimating, detrending, tapering, and bandpass filtering from 0.02 to 0.10 cps.

# Computation:

ARZ - The area under both the signal and the noise sample are calculated using the QUADR subroutine (Simpson's rule integration), and then the area of the noise is subtracted from that of the signal.

ERZ - First, the spectral amplitude and the phase of the signal and noise samples are computed using the subroutine GRTZSPEC, and the phase is unwound. Then the spectra are corrected for system response. Finally, the spectra of the noise is subtracted from that of the signal and ERZ is calculated (see definition).

REF - Using the spectra calculated for ERZ, the Rayleigh energy flux is computed (see definition). This is modified by the station structure corrections as given by Harkrider's program.

# Output:

Printout: Besides the event identification information, several plots are furnished:

- 1. Signal sample (time series).
- 2. Noise time series.
- 3. Signal amplitude spectra corrected for system response and static magnification.
- 4. Noise amplitude spectra corrected for system response and static magnification.
- 5. Signal amplitude spectra corrected for noise.
- Particle velocity spectra corrected for system and noise response.

Also, values are given for the AR of the signal, the AR of the noise, the AR of the signal corrected for noise (ARZ), the ERZ of the signal corrected for noise, the REF of the signal corrected for structure, and the Rayleigh wave magnitude ( $^{\rm M}_{\rm V}$ ) of the signal.

Binary Save Tape: With the event identification, the

amplitude and phase spectrum will be saved of the resultant (signal less noise) and noise.

### DATA ANALYSIS AND RESULTS

The ability of AR to discriminate between explosions and shallow earthquakes has been demonstrated by several authors. The purpose of this work is to improve the discrimination ability of AR and other parameters with a minimum of computing effort.

The bulk of the time by other authors and in this investigation was spent attempting to apply the proper corrections for distance, azimuth, and attenuation in order to eliminate path effects and to try to make the discriminant a diagnostic of the source only. This can be graphically demonstrated if the scatter can be reduced for a particular event in a plot of ARZ versus distance.

A correction which has been found to be particularly fruitful is the normalization of ARZ at all stations to a fixed surface wave magnitude. By using the surface wave magnitude, we only need to deal with the vertical component of Rayleigh wave and do not need to examine the short-period body wave train. The surface wave magnitude is defined by

$$M_V = Log A/_T + 1.66 Log \Delta^{\circ} - 0.18$$

where

- 1)  $A/_{T}$  = maximum particle velocity peak to peak, between T = 17 and 30 seconds
- 2)  $\Delta$  = distance in degrees.

The normalization is accomplished by:

$$(\overline{M}_{V}-M_{V_{i}}) = \overline{Log(A/T_{i})} - Log(A/T_{i}) + 1.66(\overline{Log\Delta} - Log \Delta_{i})$$
 therefore,

$$R = anti-log (\overline{M}_{v}^{-M}_{v_{i}})$$

where  $\overline{M}_{V}$  = average Rayleigh magnitude for the set of records

analyzed, i.e., 
$$\overline{M}_{V} = 1/n \sum_{i=1}^{n} M_{V_{i}}$$

Therefore,  $R \cdot AR = normalized value of AR to a given <math>\overline{M}_V$ .

Figures 2 and 3 give illustrations on the application of this normalization to an earthquake (Fallon) and an explosion (Shoal). The uncorrected plot of ARZ versus distance for 10 stations is shown in Figure 2a with the normalized values of ARZ versus distance shown in 2b. The reduction in the scatter of points due to the normalization is quite obvious.

In an effort to place a physical significance on the measurements, the parameter ERZ was developed (see definition). The uncorrected plot of ERZ versus distance for the Fallon earthquake is shown in Figure 2c, and the normalized plot is shown in Figure 2d. Again the reduction in scatter of the points is quite obvious. The normalization of ERZ values is accomplished by the following:

since  $A^2 \stackrel{\sim}{\sim} E$  (i.e., Amplitude  $\stackrel{\sim}{\sim}$  Energy)

and

$$2\left[\overline{M}_{V} - \overline{M}_{V_{\underline{i}}}\right] = \overline{Log(A/T)} - Log(A/_{T}) + 3.32(\overline{Log\Delta} - Log\Delta_{\underline{i}})$$

Therefore,

$$R_{E} = anti-log 2 \left[\overline{M}_{V} - M_{V_{i}}\right]$$

and ERZ  $\cdot$  R<sub>E</sub> = normalized value of ERZ to an  $\overline{M}_{V}$ .

A similar set of figures is shown for the Shoal explosion. The uncorrected and normalized values for ARZ and ERZ is shown in Figure 3a through 3d. The reduction of point scatter is again quite significant.

With the large reduction in point scatter possible due to the normalization to  $M_{_{\rm V}}$ , further reduction in the scatter was thought possible with the inclusion of a station structure correction. The parameter REF, the energy transported across a unit width of the wave guide by the Rayleigh wave, was

developed at this point (see definition). Figures 4 and 5 illustrate the use of REF and the effect of the structure correction. Figures 4a through 4f deal with a Guerrero, Mexico, earthquake. (For identification information on each event discussed see Table I - Event Epicenter Listing). Plots similar to those for Fallon and Shoal of ARZ and ERZ normalized to M = 4.0 are given in Figures 4a and 4b. In Figure 4c, the REF normalized to  $M_{vr} = 4.0$  is plotted versus distance with no structure correction for seven stations. The standard deviation of a least squares straight line is SD = + 0.077. In Figure 4d we have the sample plot except that a structure correction has been applied to the same seven stations. The standard deviation of a least squares straight line is  $SD = \pm 0.068$ . A comparison of the results from Figures 4c and 4d imply that the structure correction is of secondary importance, since the overall reduction in point scatter is quite negligible. If one is willing to say it was possible that the structures for the stations used were similar, then only an examination of Figures 4e and 4f is needed. For stations FK-CO and UBO, plots of energy density versus period are shown together with group and phase velocity curves. The energy densities are quite dissimilar. Therefore, one can only conclude that large perturbations in structure have a negligible, if noticeable, affect on the REF parameter.

A similar set of plots for a Komandorsky Islands earthquake of 8 February 1965 shows the same results. Figures 5a and 5b give normalized plots of ARZ and ERZ. The normalized REF with no structure correction is shown in Figure 5c, with the standard deviation for a least squares fit  $SD=\pm~0.094$ . The normalized REF with structure correction is shown in Figure 5d, with a standard deviation  $SD=\pm~0.115$ . For this event, the structure correction produced worse results than the REF computation with no structure correction. This result further demonstrates the lack of effectiveness present in the structure correction.

Figures 6 through 11 give results similar to those discussed for Figures 2 through 5. They cover the results for three shots

(Bourbon, Long Shot, and Bilby), and for three earthquakes (Andreanof Islands, California-Nevada Border, Komandorsky Islands of 14 February 1965).

Composite plots of the data for the events previously discussed are given in Figures 12 through 15. Figures 12 and 14 show ARZ and ERZ respectively, taken at a standard distance of 1000 km and plotted versus body-wave magnitude ( $m_b$ ). The separation between explosions and shallow earthquakes is what we expect from previously published results, with distinct groupings of the data. But the results shown in Figures 13 and 15 do not have this distinct separation. In these figures, ARZ and ERZ, taken at a standard of 1000 km, are plotted versus surface wave magnitude ( $M_V$ ). Although the explosions generally have a lower ARZ or ERZ for a particular magnitude, there is no separation as before.

An explanation for this lack of separation can be found if we examine our definition of  $M_{_{\mbox{$V$}}}$  and look in closer detail at the spectra for each event. As defined previously,  $M_{_{\mbox{$V$}}}$  is calculated by picking the maximum amplitude, peak to peak, which occurs between T=17 and 30 seconds. Hence, we are averaging the long period energy over the entire interval. By doing this, we have lost some information generally inherent in the wave trains for explosions and earthquakes. Because of the lack of shear wave radiation produced by explosive sources, the energy in the long period Rayleigh waves should be reduced, with most of the energy contained in the shorter periods. For earthquakes, however, more energy should be contained in the longer-period Rayleigh waves.

Finally, an attempt has been made to extend the use of ARZ and ERZ to low signal-to-noise ratios with the use of a matched filter. The ratio of ARZ's or the square root of the ratio of ERZ's for different events occurring at the same location corresponds to the value of the parameter å obtained from the matched filter analysis (Alexander and Rabenstine, 1967),

where

$$\hat{a} = \sum_{t} x(t + \tau) v(t) / \sum_{t} y^{2}(t),$$

x(t) being the test case and y(t) the known waveform.

A comparison of the ratios with â was made for the two Greenland Sea Events of 18 November 1966 studied by Alexander and Rabenstine. These events occurred approximately 40 minutes apart at the same location, the first having  $M_V$  of 3.6 and the second having  $M_V$  of 4.8. A summary of the ratios obtained is given in Table II.

Good agreement exists between the square root of the ratio of ERZ's and â. For those values for which a substantial difference exists, an explanation can be found in the method used to correct for noise, which is not the same for both. The ERZ is corrected for noise by a simple subtraction of spectra, while the value for the noise correction used in calculating â is the rms n(t). The ratio of the ARZ's of the signal alone (ARZS) also compares favorably with â, but the ratio of ARZ's corrected for noise are in poor agreement. The latter ratio is generally much lower in a station-by-station comparison, indicating that the noise sample used to correct ARZ is overestimated especially at low S/N ratios, with the good possibility of producing a negative ARZ.

A graphic demonstration of the compatability of these ratios with â is shown in Figure 16. A synthetic case was produced where an actual signal is buried in a noise sample to produce known signal-to-noise ratios. This signal is then used as a matched filter. These same signal-noise combinations were then processed by the AR program. This case also demonstrates that the best overall agreement is obtained using the square root of the energy ratio. But more work is needed to completely understand the effect of the noise corrections on the ratios, especially for low S/N.

### CONCLUSIONS

On the basis of this investigation of discrimination techniques using the vertical component of the Rayleigh wave we conclude that:

- 1. In plotting ARZ, ERZ, or REF versus Rayleigh wave magnitude for a particular event, the point scatter is significantly reduced by the normalization to a particular  $M_{_{\mathrm{U}}}$ ;
- 2. The structure correction applied to the REF calculation has little if any effect;
- 3. Plots of ARZ and ERZ versus body wave magnitude yield greater discrimination between explosions and shallow earthquakes than plots using the surface wave magnitude;
- 4. The matched filter can be used to extend the ERZ parameter to low signal-to-noise ratios with reasonable agreement between the two parameters ( $\sqrt{\text{ERZ}}_{2/\text{ERZ}_1}$  and â) where they can be compared.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS:

The parameter which yields the greatest discrimination is In plots versus body-wave magnitude, the separation is of the same order as those using ARZ. Although it takes slightly more time to calculate than ARZ, this is more than offset by the greater accuracy in the noise correction, the good agreement in comparisons with the matched filter, and the fact that this parameter has physical significance. Although the REF parameter had a more satisfying physical interpretation, the negligible improvement when the structure correction is applied leaves something to be desired for the amount of analysis and computer time needed. Therefore, ERZ should be used as a basis for discrimination programs and further investigations into the These investigations should include discrimination problem. an examination of the matched filter and the ERZ and ARZ ratios for low S/N.

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TABLE I

Event Epicenter Listing

TABLE II

Comparative Data From Matched Filter and AR Programs

Greenland Sea Events 18 Nov. 1966

Station Code	$\frac{ARZ}{ARZ}_2$	ARZS ARZS <sub>2</sub>	Matched Filter â	ERZ <sub>2</sub> 1
HN-ME	0.0074	0.2380	0.0370	0.0813
RK-ON	0.0445	0.0663	0.0655	0.0557
PG-BC	0.0528	0.0851	0.0775	0.0708
KC-MO	0.0349	0.0711	0.0535	0.0458
MO-ID	0.0458	0.0865	0.0720	0.0656
UBO	-0.0700	0.0700	0.0330	0.0 12
AX2AL	0.0234	0.0805	0.0465	0.0600
EU2AL	-0.0006	0.0870	0.0490	0.0448
WMO	0.0443	0.0728	0.0565	0.0510
BE-FL	0.0321	0.1765	0.0370	0.0775
JE-LA	0.0025	0.1021	0.0465	0.0837
MN-NV	0.0459	0.1586	0.0430	0.0960

Notes: Subscript 1: Greenland Sea Eq. 18:07:54.0 Z
Subscript 2: Greenland Sea Eq. 18:48:43.9 A
ARZ<sub>1</sub>/ARZ<sub>2</sub>: Ratio of ARZ'S corrected for noise
ARZS<sub>1</sub>/ARZS<sub>2</sub>: Ratio of ARZ'S not corrected for noise
ERZ<sub>1</sub>/ERZ<sub>2</sub>: Ratio of ERZ'S corrected for noise

### EARTHQUAKE GUERRERO MEXICO

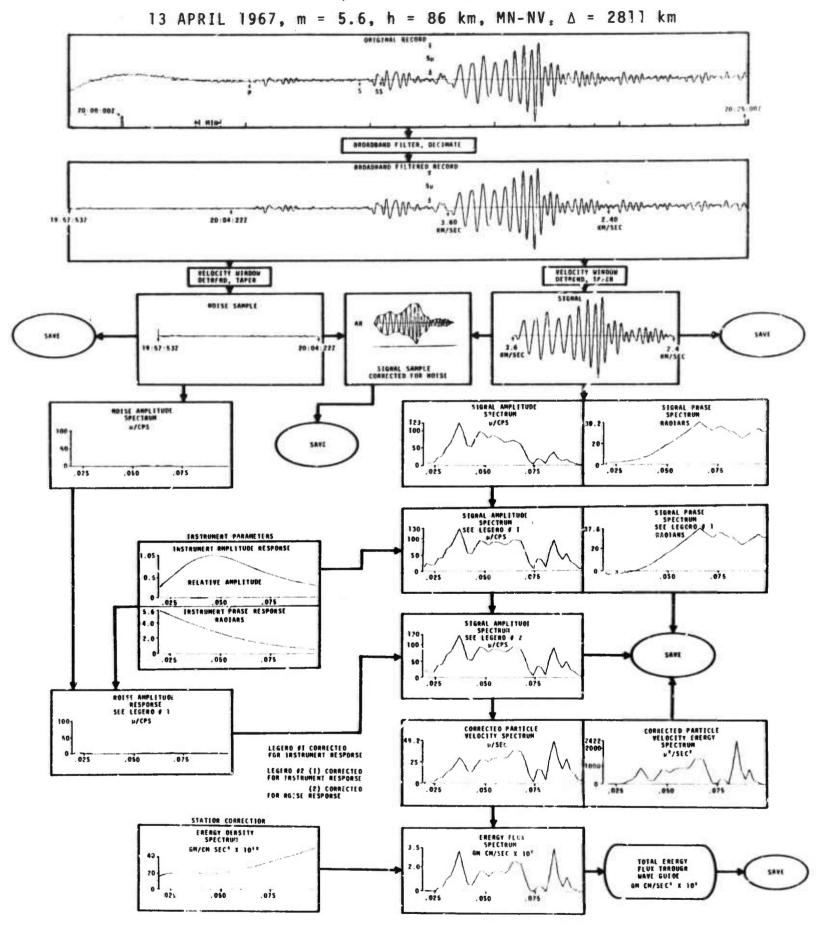


Figure 1. Flow chart for Rayleigh wave discrimination program

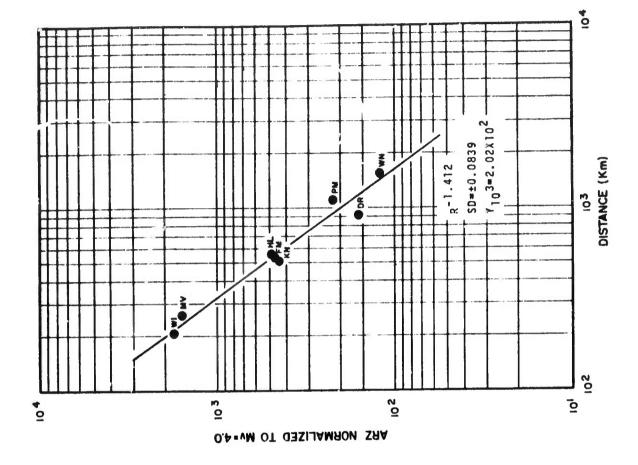


Figure 2b. Fallon Eq. - ARZ vs. Distance. Normalized to surface wave magnitude  $M_{\rm v}=4.0$ .

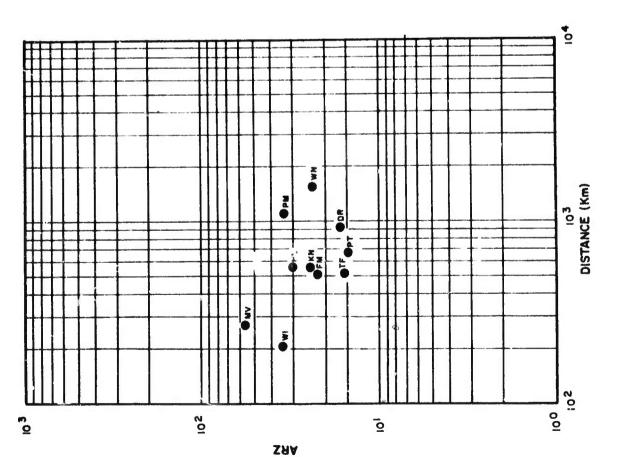
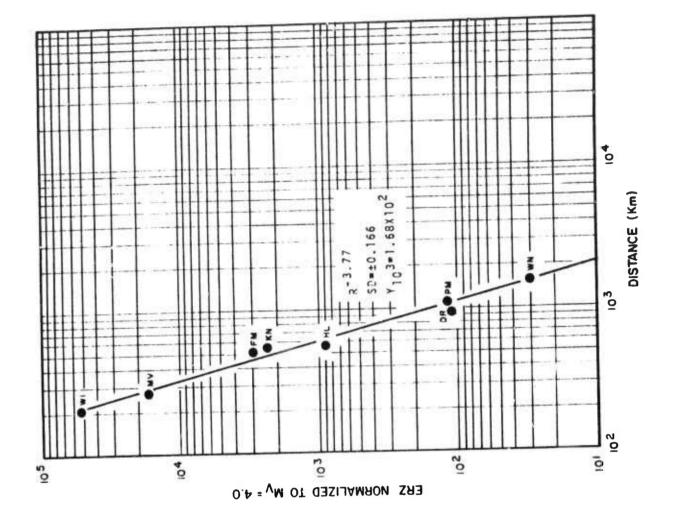
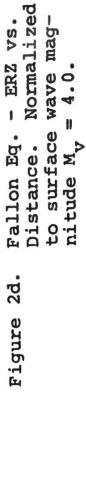


Figure 2a. Fallon Eq. - ARZ vs. Distance.





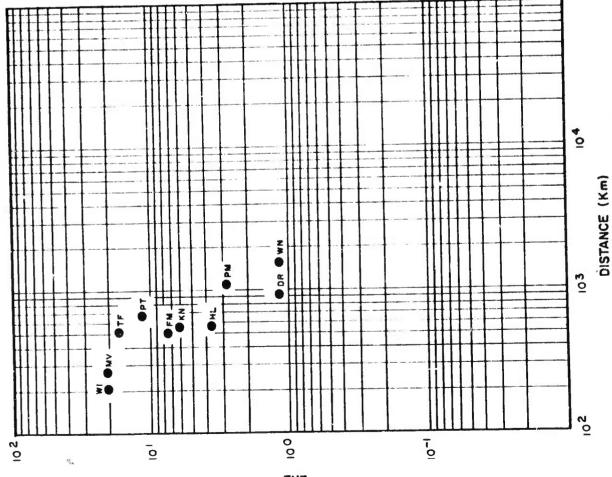
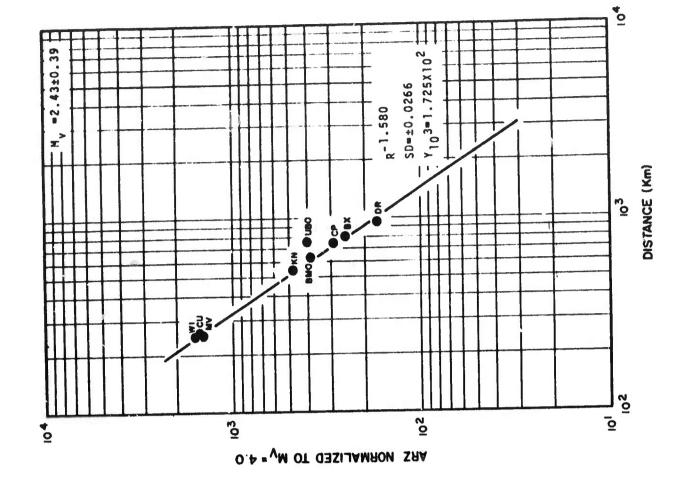


Figure 2c. Fallon Eq. - ERZ vs. Distance.

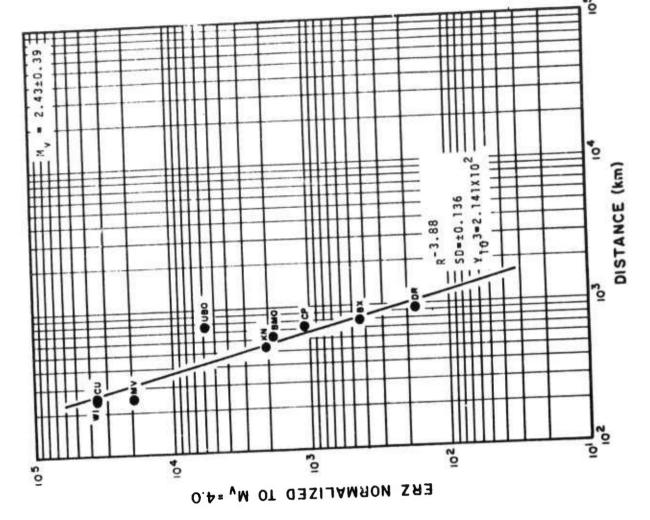




SAA NAME (KM)

Spiriter M

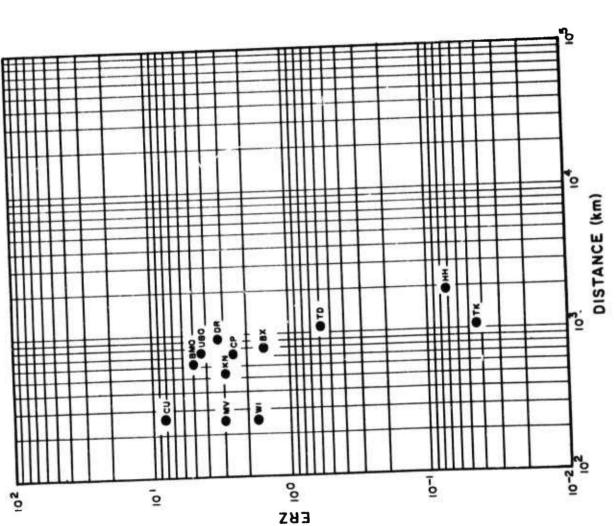
Shoal - ARZ vs. Distance. Normalized to surface wave magnitude  $M_{\rm V}$ Figure 3b.



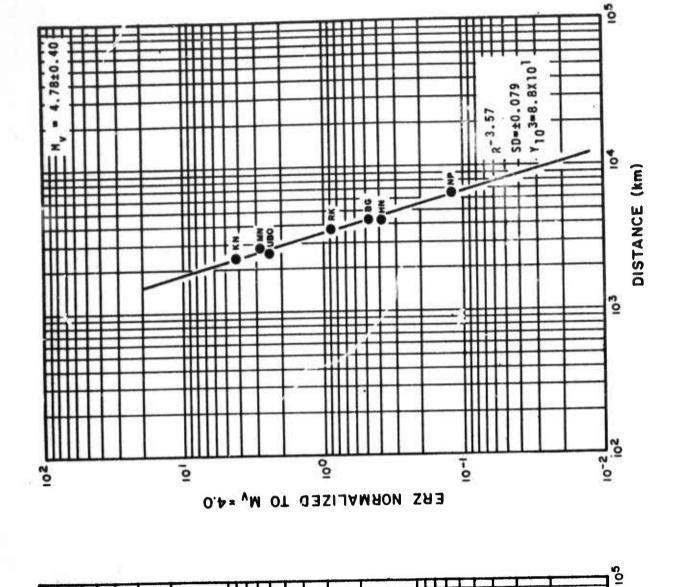
Shoal - ERZ vs. Distance. Normalized to surface wave magnitude  $M_{\rm v}$  = 4.0.

3d.

Figure



Shoal - ERZ vs. Distance. Figure 3c.



Y<sub>10</sub>3=3.15×10<sup>2</sup>

PG

ARZ NORMALIZED TO My = 4.0

UBO SWIN PRK

102

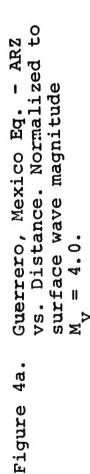
SD=±0.053 R-1.242

<u>0</u>

= 4.78±0.40

Σ,

103



DISTANCE (km)

4.0.

11

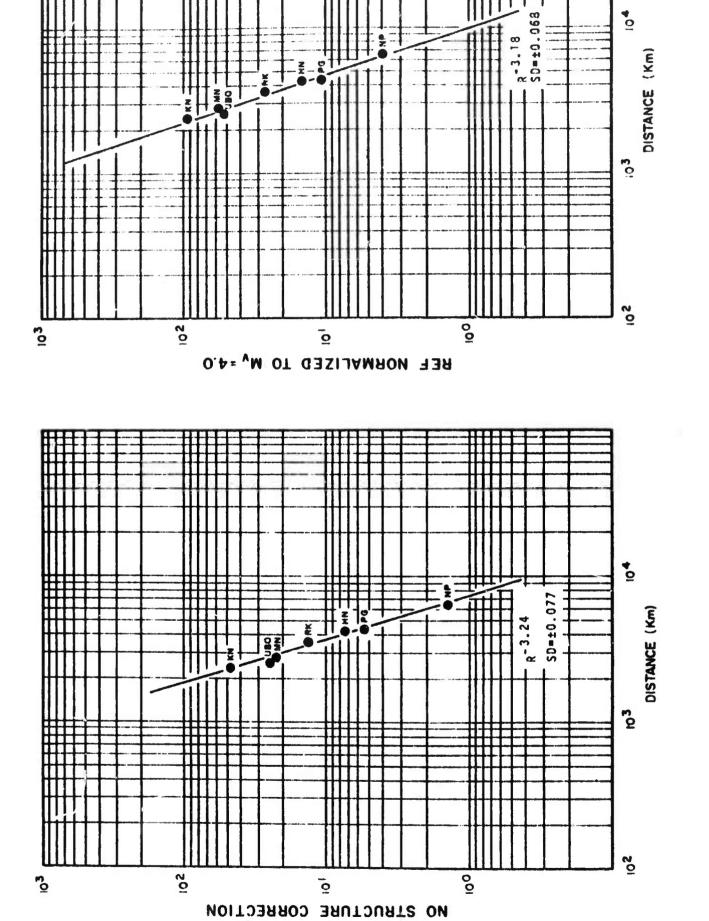
ERZ vs. Distance. Nor-

malized to surface wave magnitude M<sub>v</sub>

Guerrero, Mexico Eq.

4p.

Figure



REF NORMALIZED TO My = 4.0

vs. Distance. No structure correction. Normalized to surface Guerrero, Mexico Eq - REF 11 wave magnitude M<sub>V</sub> 4C. Figure

to surface vs. Distance. Structure correction. Normalized 11 Guerrero, Mexico Eq wave magnitude M<sub>V</sub> 4d. Figure

40

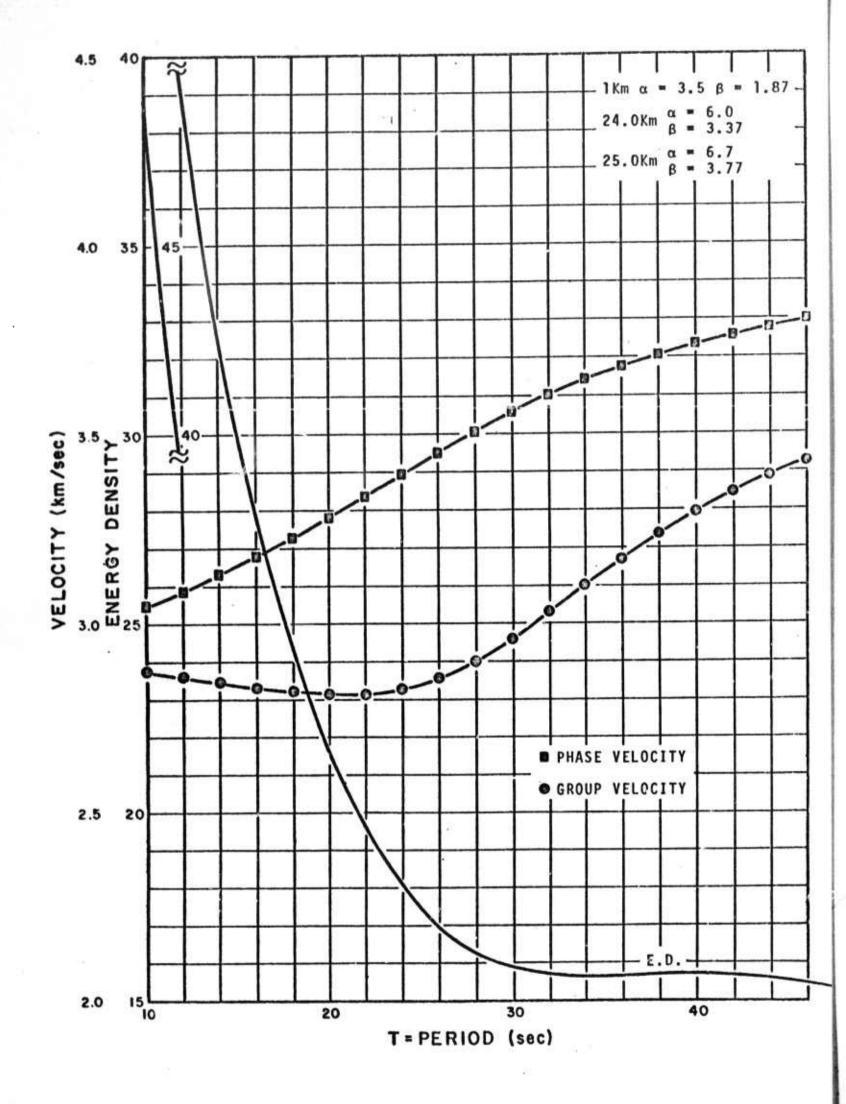


Figure 4e. Energy Density vs. Period at FK-CO.

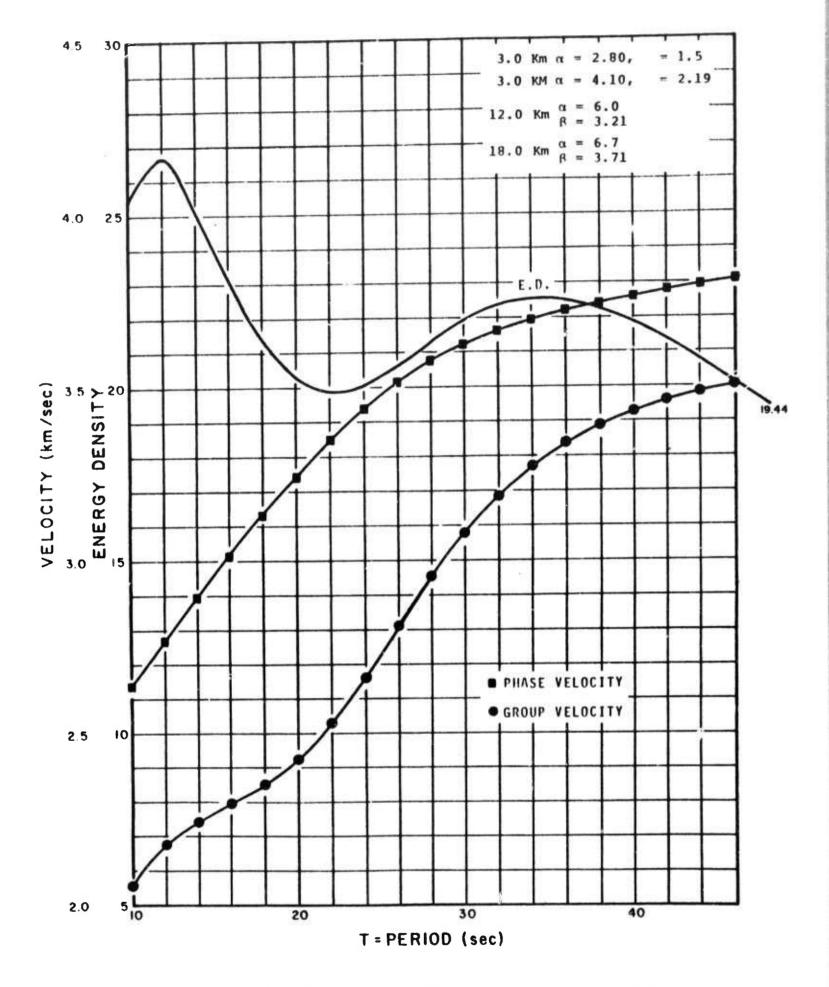
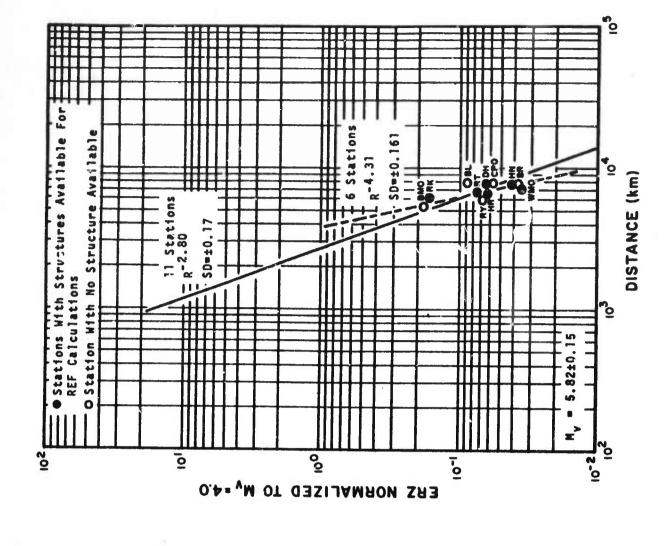


Figure 4f. Energy Density vs. Period at UBO.



- 5.82±0.15

102

ARZ NORMALIZED TO My = 4.0

ARZ vs. Distance. Normalized to surface wave magnitude M. = 4.0. Komandorsky Islands Eq I nitude M<sub>V</sub> 5a. Figure

DISTANCE (km)

SD\*\*10.072+

LR-1.42

0

ERZ vs. Distance. Normal-

Komandorsky Islands Eq I

5b.

Figure

ized to surface wave magnitude  $M_{\odot} = 4.0$ .

nitude M<sub>V</sub>

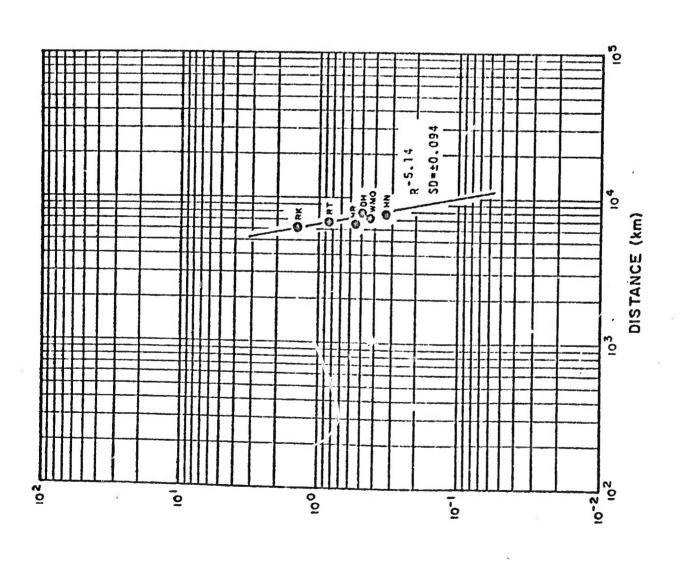


Figure 5c. Komandorsky Islands Eq I -REF vs. Distance. No structure correction. Normalized to surface wave magnitude M<sub>V</sub> = 4.0.

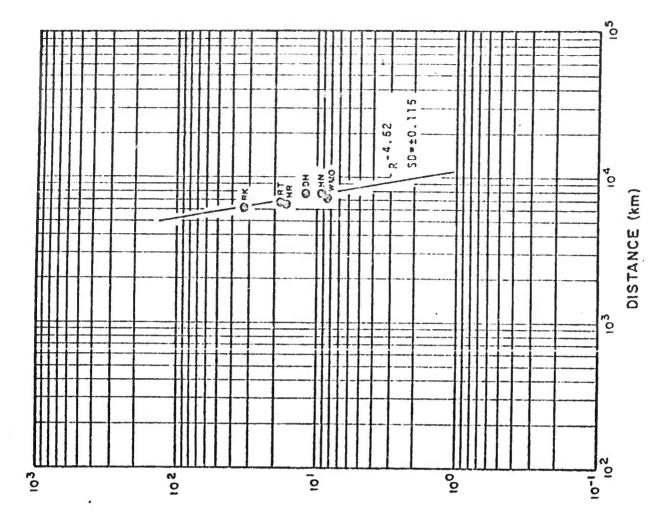
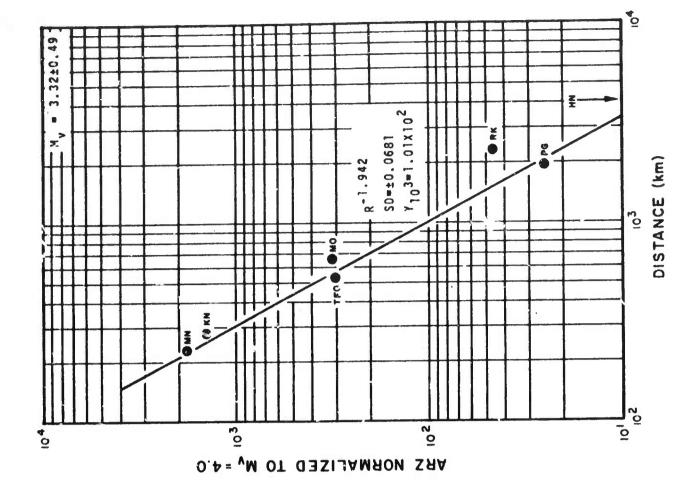


Figure 5d. Komandorsky Islands Eq I -REF vs. Distance. Structure correction. Normalized to surface wave magnitude M<sub>v</sub> = 4.0.



0 10

-0

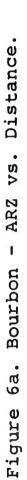
O KN

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N TO

102

103

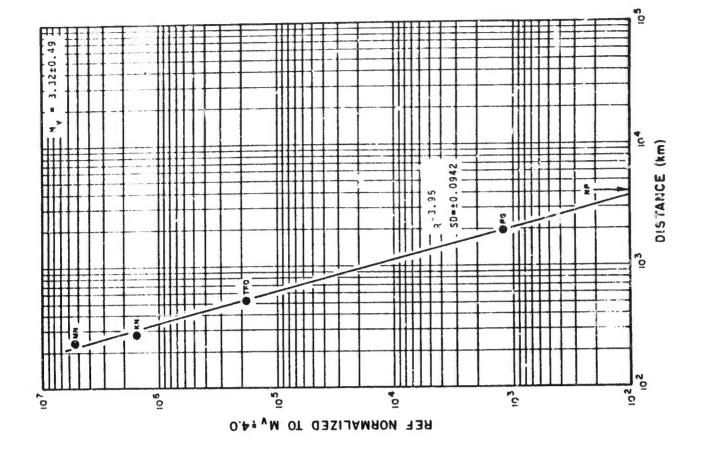


40

DISTANCE (km)

100.

Figure 6b. Bourbon - ARZ vs. Distance. Normalized to surface wave magnitude  $M_{\rm v}$  = 4.0.

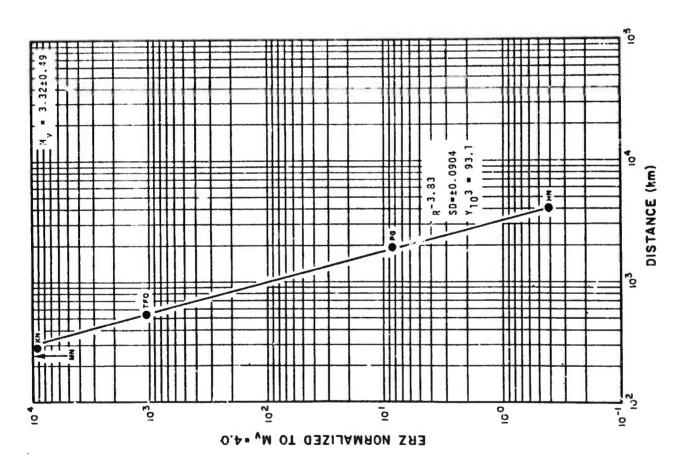


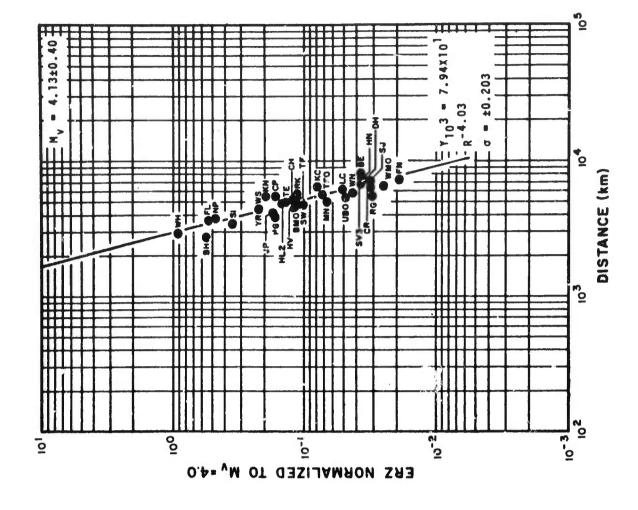


malized to surface wave magnitude  $\rm M_{V} = 4.0.$ 

Bourbon - REF vs. Distance. Structure correction. Nor-

Figure 6d.





- 4.13±0.40

103 - 2.35x102

Ø ■ ±0.25 R-1.70

20

O.4-4.0 OT GESTLAMPON SAA



tance. Normalized to sur-Long Shot - ERZ vs. Dis-

Figure 7b.

\*o

DISTANCE (KM)

face wave magnifude  $M_v = 4.0$ .

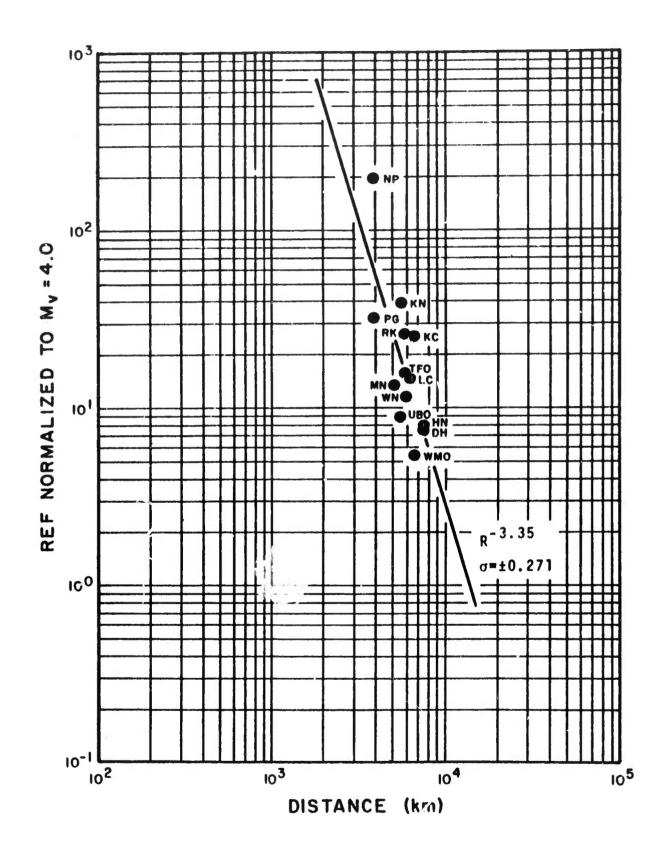
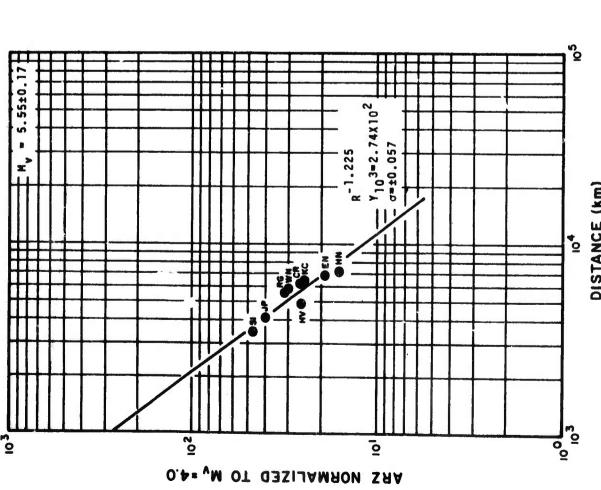


Figure 7c. Long Shot - REF vs. Distance. Structure correction. Normalized to surface wave magnitude  $M_V^{}=4.0$ .



Y103=1.595X101

R-3.00

g=±0.101

00

<u>0</u>

- 5.55±0.17

ERZ NORMALIZED TO My = 4.0 to surface wave magnitude  $M_{\star} = 4.0$ . vs Distance. Normalized Andreanof Is. Eq - ARZ DISTANCE (km) Figure 8a.

to surface wave magnitude vs Distance. Normalized Andreanof Is. Eq - ERZ Figure 8b.

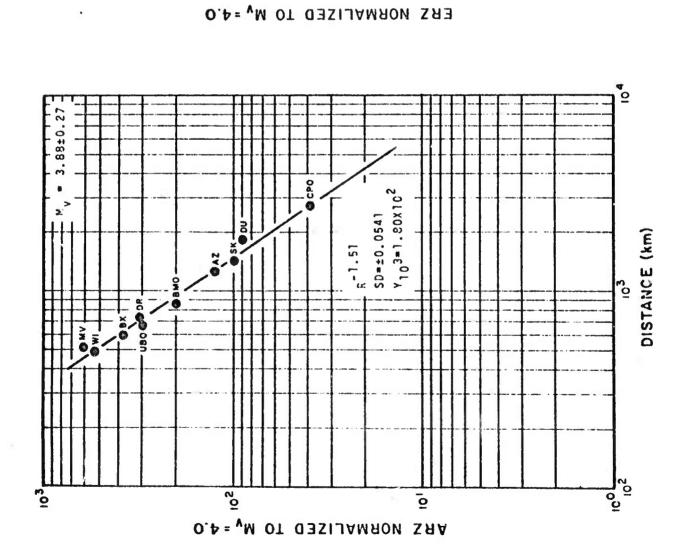
201

**\***0.

12-01

DISTANCE (KT.)

**م**ر • 1 5



Y103-1.551x102

- @sk - SD=±0.217

OBNO

20

1000

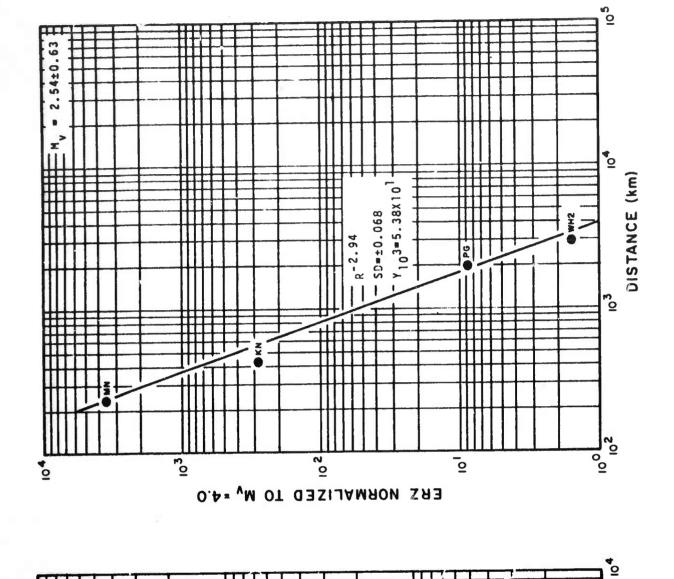
03

Figure 9a. Bilby - ARZ vs. Distance-Normalized to surface wave magnitude  $M_{\rm v} = 4.0$ .

Figure 9b. Bilby - ERZ vs. Distance-Normalized to surface wave magnitude M<sub>v</sub> - 4.0.

DISTANCE (km)

1001



Y<sub>10</sub>3=2.52×10<sup>2</sup>

R-1.356

OBD

103

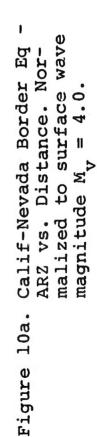
ARZ NORMALIZED TO My = 4.0

SD=±0.100

2H2

2.54±0.63

溴 T.W.

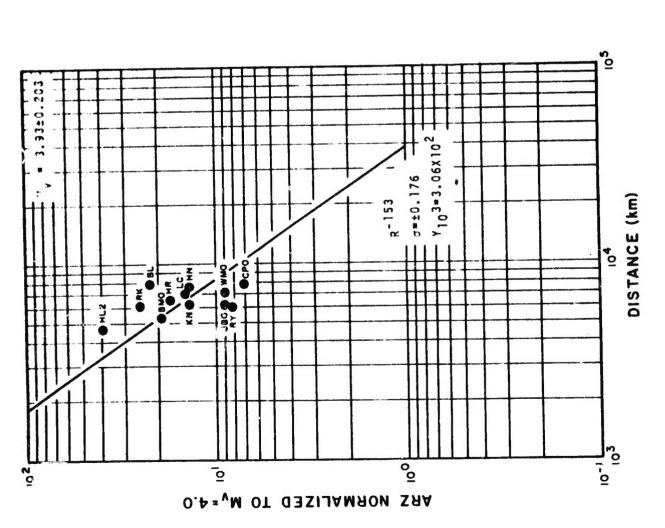


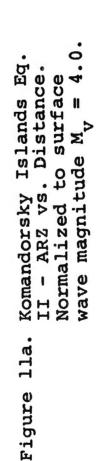
DISTANCE (km)

ERZ vs. Distance. Normalized to surface wave magnitude  $M_{\rm v}=4.0.$ 

Calif-Nevada Border Eq

Figure 10b.





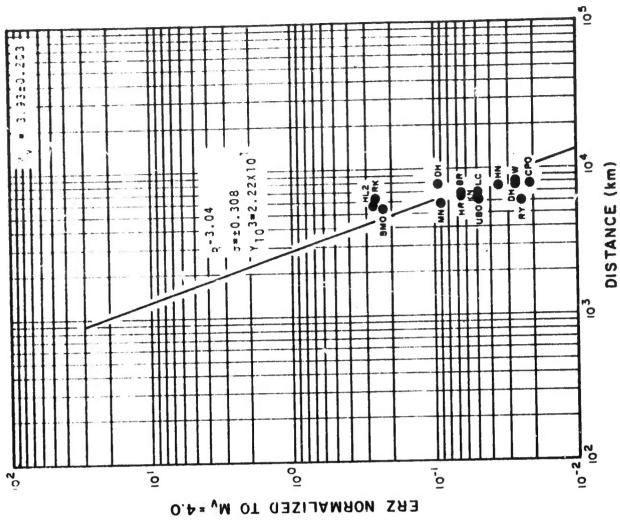


Figure 11b. Komandorsky Islands Eq.
II - ERZ vs. Distance.
Normalized to surface
wave magnitude M = 4.0.

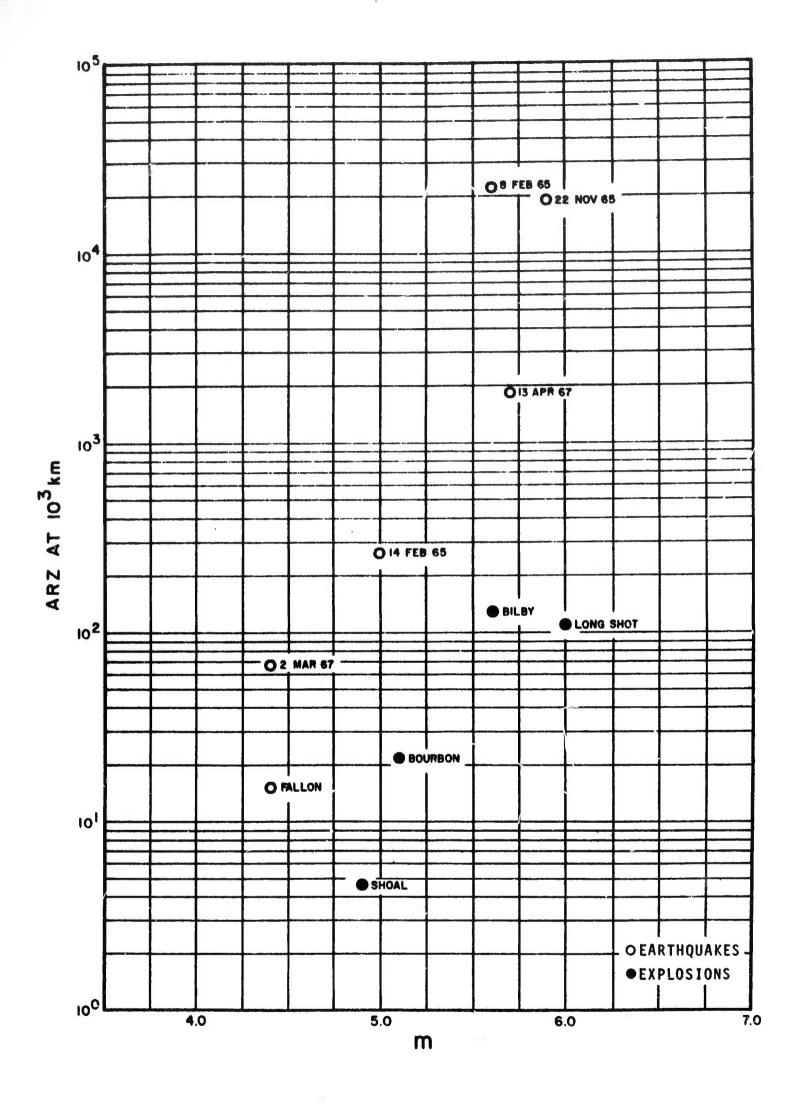


Figure 12. ARZ (At 1000 km) vs. P-wave magnitude (m<sub>b</sub>) for 12 events.

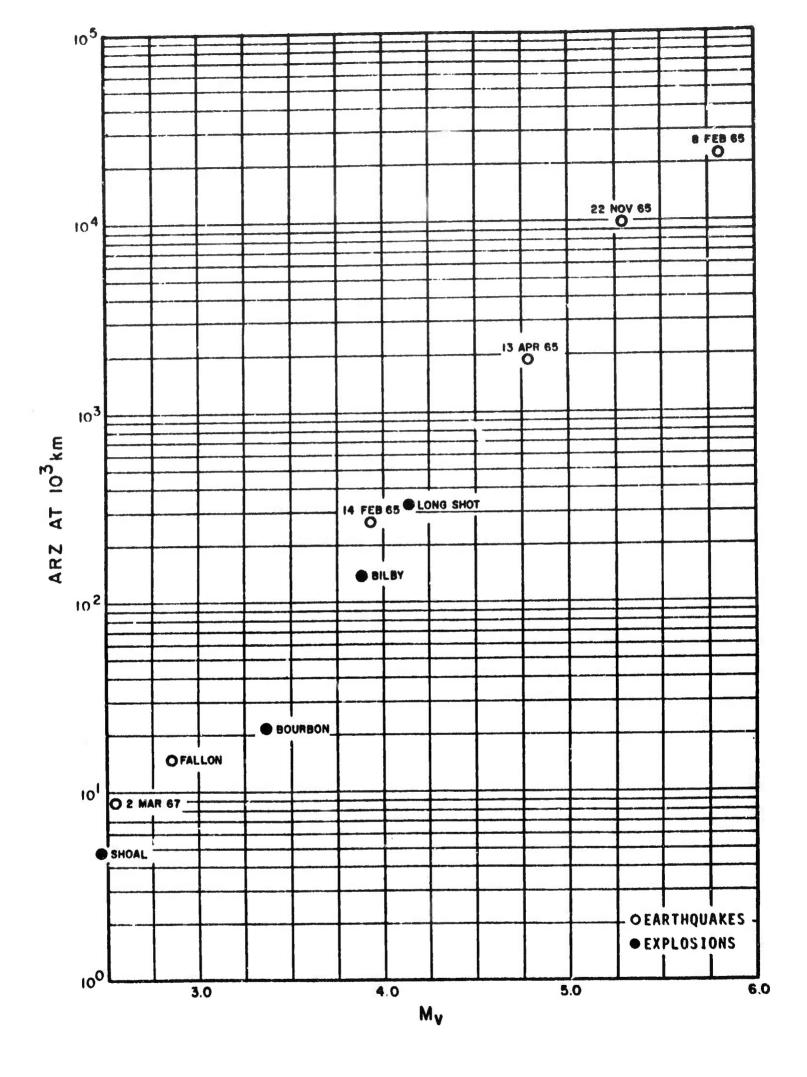


Figure 13. ARZ (At 1000 km) vs. Rayleigh wave magnitude  $(M_{_{\rm V}})$  for 13 events.

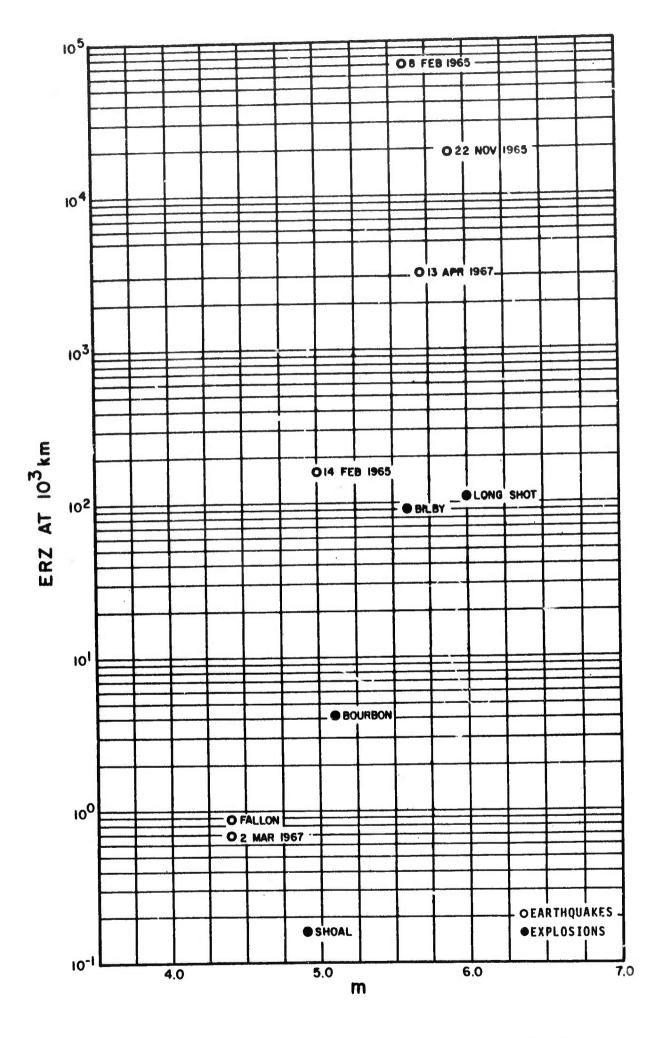


Figure 14. ERZ (At 1000 km) vs. P-wave magnitude (m<sub>b</sub>) for 12 events.

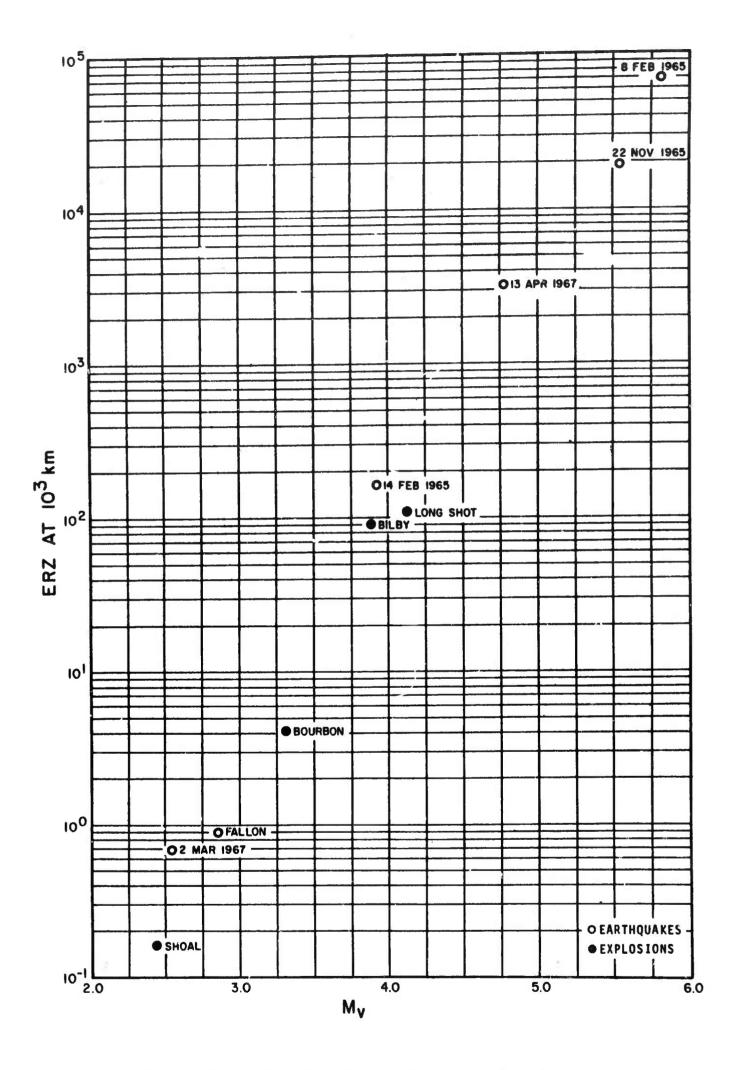


Figure 15. ERZ (At 1000 km) vs. Rayleigh wave magnitude ( $M_{_{\mbox{\scriptsize V}}}$ ) for 13 events.

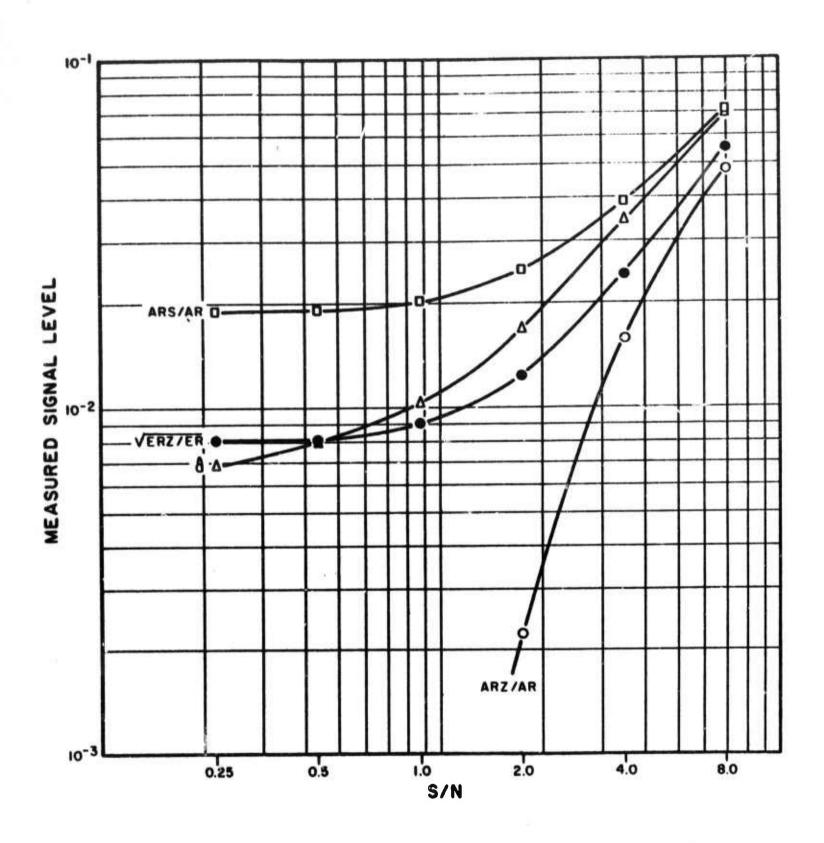


Figure 16. Comparison of data for synthetic case using matched filter and AR program - measured signal level vs. signal input level (S/N).

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across a unit width of the wave	mide by the	Ravle	igh wave (REF).		
Results for several explosions and earthquakes of varying magnitudes					
are presented. Evaluation of these techniques and their applicabil-					
ity in an automated discrimination program is discussed. An attempt					
is made to incorporate a matched filter approach for weak signals.					
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14 KEY WORDS					
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Shallow Earthquakes and Explosion	ons				
ARZ					
Matched Filter					

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